

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Michael Dean Whitmarsh et al.

Serial No.: 09/710,287

Filed: November 10, 2000

Docket No.: 10003977-1

Title: PRINT PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH DOCUMENT ADVISOR SERVICE**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 3 and 20 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1 and 19 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a print job of a customer before submitting the print job to at least one of a plurality of print providers, the print job being defined by a data file for the print job and a print request identifying at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer, the method comprising:
 - providing a print processing system controller having a printing capability of the print providers registered therewith;
 - defining a network communication link between the customer and the print processing system controller;
 - receiving the data file for the print job at the print processing system controller via the network communication link;
 - determining at least one document type for the print job with the print processing system controller based on characteristics of the print job as included in the data file for the print job, including processing the data file for the print job to determine characteristics of the print job including at least one of a file format, a number of pages, a print medium, a printing layout, a color content, and an image presence of the print job, and analyzing the characteristics of the print job ~~with the print processing system controller to determine the at least one document type for the print job;~~
 - presenting the at least one document type for the print job to the customer via the network communication link; and
 - receiving the print request for the print job at the print processing system controller via the network communication link, the print request specifying a document type for the print job from the at least one document type for the print job and identifying the at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein defining the network communication link includes defining an Internet communication link between the customer and the print processing system controller.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the at least one attribute of the print job includes specifying at least one of a number of copies, a cost characteristic, a quality characteristic, and a due date characteristic for the print job.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the at least one attribute of the print job includes specifying at least one of a print medium, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a delivery option, and a due date for the print job.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein identifying the at least one attribute of the print job includes specifying a plurality of selections for the at least one of the print medium, the printing layout, the color printing option, the finishing option, the delivery option, and the due date for the print job.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining with the print processing system controller which of the print providers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job, including comparing the print request and the data file for the print job with the printing capability of the print providers;
 - compiling with the print processing system controller a list of at least one quote of at least one of the print providers which has the printing capability to fulfill the print job; and
 - presenting the list of the at least one quote to the customer via the network communication link.

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9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the list of the at least one quote includes at least two quotes of the at least one of the print providers.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein defining the network communication link includes defining the network communication link between the customer, the print providers, and the print processing system controller, and further comprising:

selecting a quote from the list of the at least one quote and at least one print provider of the at least one of the print providers to fulfill the print job; and

submitting the print job to the at least one print provider via the network communication link.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the print processing system controller has a plurality of document models included therein, and further comprising:

creating the print job from a document model of the plurality of document models.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the print job includes:

receiving a print job type at the print processing system controller,

compiling with the print processing system controller a set of document models from the plurality of document models based on the print job type, the set of document models including the document model of the plurality of document models, and

presenting the set of document models to the customer via the network communication link.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein creating the print job further includes selecting the document model from the set of document models.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the print job includes selecting at least one of a print medium, a printing layout, a color printing option, and a finishing option for the print job from the document model.

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15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein creating the print job further includes presenting a cost for each of the at least one of the print medium, the printing layout, the color printing option, and the finishing option for the print job to the customer via the network communication link.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the print job includes selecting a document template for the print job from the document model.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein defining the network communication link includes defining the network communication link between the customer, the print providers, and the print processing system controller, and further comprising:

registering the print capability of each of the print providers with the print processing system controller via the network communication link.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein registering the printing capability includes registering at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, and a delivery capability of each of the print providers.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a print job of a customer before submitting the print job to at least one of a plurality of print providers, the print job being defined by a data file for the print job and a print request identifying at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer, the system comprising:

a print processing system controller configured to have a printing capability of the print providers registered therewith,

wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to receive the data file for the print job from the customer, ~~and~~ process the data file for the print job to determine characteristics of the print job including at least one of a file format, a number of pages, a print medium, a printing layout, a color content, and an image presence of the print job, and

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analyze the characteristics of the print job to determine at least one document type for the print job based on the characteristics of the print job as included in the data file for the print job, and

wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to present the at least one document type for the print job to the customer, and receive the print request for the print job from the customer, wherein the print request specifies a document type for the print job from the at least one document type for the print job and identifies the at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the print processing system controller is configured to communicate with the customer via a network communication link, and wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to receive the data file for the print job from the customer via the network communication link.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the network communication link is an Internet communication link.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the at least one attribute of the print job includes at least one of a number of copies, a cost characteristic, a quality characteristic, and a due date characteristic for the print job.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the at least one attribute of the print job includes at least one of a print medium, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a delivery option, and a due date for the print job.

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27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the at least one attribute of the print job includes a plurality of selections for the at least one of the print medium, the printing layout, the color printing option, the finishing option, the delivery option, and the due date for the print job.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to compare the print request and the data file for the print job with the printing capability of the print providers and determine which of the print providers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job, compile a list of at least one quote of at least one of the print providers which has the printing capability to fulfill the print job, and present the list of the at least one quote to the customer via the network communication link.

29. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein the list of the at least one quote includes at least two quotes of the at least one of the print providers.

30. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein the network communication link is an Internet communication link.

31. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the print processing system controller has a plurality of document models included therein, and wherein the print job is created from a document model of the plurality of document models.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to receive a print job type, compile a set of document models from the plurality of document models based on the print job type, and present the set of document models to the customer via a network communication link, the set of document models including the document model of the plurality of document models.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the network communication link is an Internet communication link.

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34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein each of the document models include at least one of a print medium option, a printing layout option, a color printing option, and a finishing option for the print job.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein each of the document models include a cost for each of the at least one of the print medium option, the printing layout option, the color printing option, and the finishing option for the print job.

36. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein each of the document models include at least one document template for the print job.

37. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the printing capability of each of the print providers is registered with the print processing system controller via a network communication link.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the network communication link is an Internet communication link.

39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the printing capability of each of the print providers includes at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, and a delivery capability.

40-45. (Cancelled)